

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/765,884	KONNO ET AL.	
	Examiner Helene Klemanski	Art Unit 1755	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed June 29, 2005.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 7-17.

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

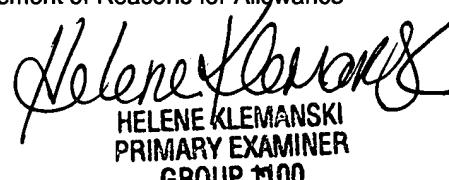
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 4/5/05
- 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
- 5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- 7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9. Other _____.



HELENE KLEMANSKI
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1100

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: This application teaches (1) a water-in-oil emulsion ink comprising 10-90% by weight of an oil phase containing an esterified vegetable oil and 90-10% by weight of an aqueous phase wherein the aqueous phase contains a coloring agent; (2) a water-in-oil emulsion ink comprising 10-90% by weight of an oil phase containing an esterified vegetable oil obtained by recycling and esterifying an edible waste oil and 90-10% by weight of an aqueous phase and (3) a water-in-oil emulsion ink comprising 10-90% by weight of an oil phase containing an esterified vegetable oil selected from the group consisting of soybean oil methyl ester or soybean oil butyl ester and 90-10% by weight of an aqueous phase. The closest prior art of record is U.S. Patent 5,622,548 and US 2003/0069328 (US equivalent of JP 2001/288394), issued to Zou et al. and Fukuda et al. respectively. Zou et al. teaches a water-in-oil emulsion ink comprising an oil phase containing an encapsulated colorant, an oil such as NIREZ 9012 (i.e. butyl ester of tall oil fatty acid), a surfactant and a film forming component and an aqueous phase containing water and optional additives such as thickening agents, biocides and humectants but fail to teach or fairly suggest (1) an aqueous phase containing a colorant; (2) an oil phase containing an esterified vegetable oil obtained by recycling and esterifying an edible waste oil or (3) an oil phase containing an esterified vegetable oil selected from the group consisting of soybean oil methyl ester or soybean oil butyl ester as claimed by applicants. Fukuda et al. teach a printing ink comprising a vegetable oil, a rosin-modified phenol resin, a

pigment and optionally a fatty acid ester derived from a vegetable oil such as soybean oil fatty acid methyl ester or soybean oil fatty acid butyl ester but fail to teach or fairly suggest the addition of a water phase to form a water-in-oil emulsion ink as claimed by applicants. Accordingly, this application is allowable.

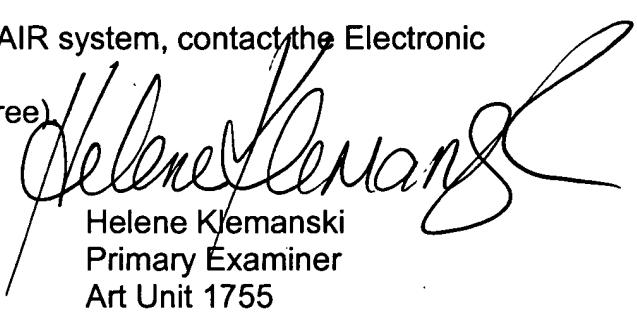
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Helene Klemanski whose telephone number is (571) 272-1370. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 5:30-2:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Helene Klemanski
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1755



HK
September 12, 2005